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The President's Message

After writing the past ten President's messages, it seems strange to sit down and realize that you have only one more to write. You go over in your mind all the events of the past year that the Midwest has been involved with, both on the National and on the Local level. We've been involved in controversy concerning the move of the National Headquarters, but yet our point was well taken and certain changes were made by the National to keep its members better informed. We have succeeded in having a fine candidate, Mike Bavier, nominated for the National Associations Board of Directors. I feel that events such as these show that we are a strong and interested association.

Our own Association functions have been well attended and managed, starting with our monthly meetings, the Fall Dinner Dance and our Annual Turf Clinic. Each year, it seems interest and participation has grown and this can only lead to a better "Association".

In closing, I would like to thank every member on the Board of Directors for their dedication in doing a fine job this past year. It is Men like these that make the Midwest function well. Finally, I want to thank you, the Membership, for supporting myself and the Board this past year. Without Members' support, an Association cannot work. So, in this respect, a very special "Thank You".

Denis Straus,
President



**SAY YOU SAW
IT IN THE
"BULL SHEET"**

MAGSC BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR 1973

OFFICERS

President — Denis Straus
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Second Vice President — Edward Smith
Secretary Treasurer — Mike Bavier

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Clifford Behrendt
Robert Breen
Joe Grenko
Executive Secretary — Dorothy Carey

Roger LaRochelle
Fred Opperman
Paul Voykin

The following is a list of office telephone numbers for the entire Board.

Dorothy Carey	349-7766
Mike Bavier	358-7030
Clifford Behrendt	815 - 459-8570
Bob Breen	653-5800
Joe Grenko	336-6546
Roger LaRochelle	219 - 844-0335
Fred Opperman	469-6220
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Albey Staudt	232-0624
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COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE

NEW SCAB-FREE APPLE VARIETY

Prima, the new scab-immune apple variety, is now available at several nurseries specializing in fruit trees. Scab is the most severe disease problem in most Illinois home apple plantings. Susceptible apples and crabapples were severely infected by scab this season and some trees have few leaves even this late in the year. Scab will not infect Prima, thus Prima does not require as many pest control sprays as other varieties.

Prima also is resistant to apple mildew and fire blight diseases, but is not immune to them. Like other varieties being grown today, it is somewhat susceptible to blotch, bot rot, black rot and other diseases. But these latter diseases are easier to control than scab.

A medium to large size red apple, Prima is crisp and juicy with a moderately tart flavor. It most nearly resembles Jonathan, but is not as tart and does not have any Jonathan in its parentage. It is both a dessert and cooking apple.

Prima ripens about September 5 in the Chicago area (3 weeks before Jonathan). Classed as a late summer apple, Prima is not a "good keeper." When picked at the proper stage of maturity, it will keep under refrigeration for three to four weeks.

Prima performs on dwarfing rootstocks. Dwarf trees are suggested for gardeners as well as commercial orchardists.

Prima was developed by the cooperative breeding project among the University of Illinois, Purdue University and Rutgers University. Scab immunity was obtained from a wild crab apple species bearing fruit about the size of a small cherry. Several other scab-immune selections from the breeding program are now in the final testing stages. Some of them may be named and released during this decade.

James A. Fizzell,
Associate Extension Adviser
Horticulture/Cook County



1106 N. Scott Street
Wheaton, Ill. 60187
Telephone 668-5537



Editor

Midwest Breezes

Charles Shiley, Superintendent at Plum Tree National Golf Club, is in the process of planting 4,000 evergreens around the outer edge of the club property.

Mike Bavier, Superintendent at Inverness Country Club, has completed the building of four tennis courts. This also required the grading and laying of 2,000 square yards of Kentucky blue grass sod. He also applied 38 tons of gypsum to his fairways.

James Bertoni, Superintendent at Knollwood Country Club, has resigned and will be moving to LaJolla Country Club, San Diego, California. We all wish him the best of luck.

Charles Schultz, Superintendent at Hinsdale Golf Club, will be leaving Hinsdale Golf Club after many years of dedicated service. I am sure he will be missed by his many friends at Hinsdale. Charlie will take on a new form of responsibility by becoming a farmer at Almond, Wis. Charlie has purchased 260 acres of land and has 12 milk cows at the present time. Good luck, Charlie.

David and Penny Meyer, host at the Midwest Superintendents dinner and dance at Nordic Hills Golf Club on October 27, did a magnificent job. One hundred-twelve members and guests attended and are looking forward to a return.

Carson, Pirie, Scott, and Co., owners of Carson Inn-Nordic Hills, have purchased the Indian Lakes Golf Club (36 holes) at Bloomingdale, Illinois. The maintenance will come under the supervision of David Meyer, present superintendent at Nordic Hills Country Club.

Roger Brown has resigned from Koos Inc. and taken on responsibilities with Swift and Co.

Chuck and Boo Daugherty have returned from a four weeks trip to Europe. We all hope you enjoyed yourselves and welcome back home.

Helen and Oscar Borgmeier have returned to their winter home in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. If you are in this area, drop in and see them. The phone number is in the phone book.

Paul and Ruth Burdett are spending the cold winter months in the warm climate of Tuscon, Arizona. Look them up when you are in their area. They will be glad to see you.

The 21st Annual Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents Clinic held at Medinah Country Club on November 13 and 14, 1973, was, as usual, very interesting and educational. All of the speakers did an outstanding job.

An out-of-towner who was in the spotlight was Andy Bertoni. Andy was the guest speaker at the banquet. He, as usual, was just great. Sitting at one of the tables having a bit of refreshments were seven hardy men who contributed 350 yards toward golf course work. Bob Williams, Andy Bertoni, Ed Burk, Ed Schmal, Bert Rost, Al Sagesman and Ray Gerber.

We want to thank Medinah Country Club for the privilege of holding our clinic at this wonderful club. A special thanks to Don Johnson, green chairman, and John Jackman, Superintendent. We all hope they will permit us to return next year.

Another special thanks to the two men that made this clinic a successful one. Fred Opperman and Roger LaRochelle.

PRIZE WINNERS AT THE FALL DINNER-DANCE

Toro snow pup won by Mrs. Ed Stewart
 Harley-Davidson - 2 hockey tickets — Mrs. Smith
 Harley Davidson - Carson \$50.00 gift certificate — Mrs. Mack
 Burdetts - Testor lamp — P. Vandercook
 Burdetts - Lited Make-up mirror — Mrs. K. Fuchs
 Burdetts - Blower styler electric comb — Dave Meyer
 Art Clesen Inc. - Hamilton Beach Blender — Mrs. Burdett
 W. Fuchs - Turf Products, G.E. salon dryer — Mrs. Nielson
 Swift & Co., B. A. Roberts - Lady Schick Hot Curlers — Mrs. Newberry
 Roseman Equip. - American Heritage, 50 piece silver set — Mrs. Lempke
 Precision Labs. - Clock Radio — Mrs. Albaugh
 Ill. Lawn - Attache case — Mrs. O. Miles
 1/2 Gal. Canadian Club — Mr. Jacobs
 1/5 Scotch — Mrs. Rosener
 The Bishop Co. - Agrico - cut glass liquor decanter — Mrs. Goodman
 Material Service - Large Health-O-Meter scale — Mrs. Straus
 Ray Murphy & Co. - Irish Whiskey — John Jackman
 We would also like to thank Frenzer Inc. whose check arrived too late — due to a delay in the mail, and had to be returned.

Golf winners for October 17 Meeting.

E. Smith — Low Gross
 R. Williams — Low Gross, Seniors
 B. Duguid — 71
 B. Hansen — 73
 D. Meyer — 73



Dr. Al Turgeon

Dr. Al Turgeon from the University of Illinois Research Department delivered the keynote address and a fine message it was and always is.

The Annual meeting of the Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents will be held Monday, December 10th, 1973 at the Cypress Inn, Ogden Avenue, Hinsdale, Ill. (From the Tollway exit on West Ogden Avenue.)

Lunch will be served at 1 o'clock after which the Annual meeting and election of Officers and Directors will be held.

Our regular business meeting will follow the election.

The selection of Officers and Directors submitted by the Nominating Committee for consideration by the members at the Annual Meeting for 1974 is as follows:

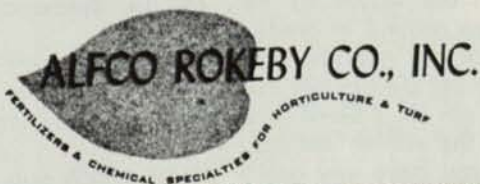
President — Albert Staudt
 1st Vice President — Edward Smith
 2nd Vice President — Joseph Grenko & Fred Opperman
 Secretary-Treasurer — Michael Bavier
 Directors — (3 to be elected for a 2 year term)
 Carl Grassl, Edward Fischer, David Meyers,
 Gerald Hanko, Carl Hopphan

Respectfully submitted.

Nominating Committee:
 Dudley Smith
 Eddie Wollenberg
 Richard Trevarthan
 Joseph Canale
 Paul Voykin

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ILLINOIS ARBORISTS ANNOUNCE WINTER MEETING

Plans for the 1974 Winter Seminar of the Illinois Commercial Arborists Association were announced today by John F. Kramer, President.

According to Kramer, Wilmette, Illinois tree expert, the program will be held January 29, 1974 at the Sheraton-O'Hare Motor Inn, Rosemont, Illinois.

The intense one-day program is co-sponsored by the Arborist Association and the Cooperative Extension Service, University of Illinois.

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GOLFERS PLAY

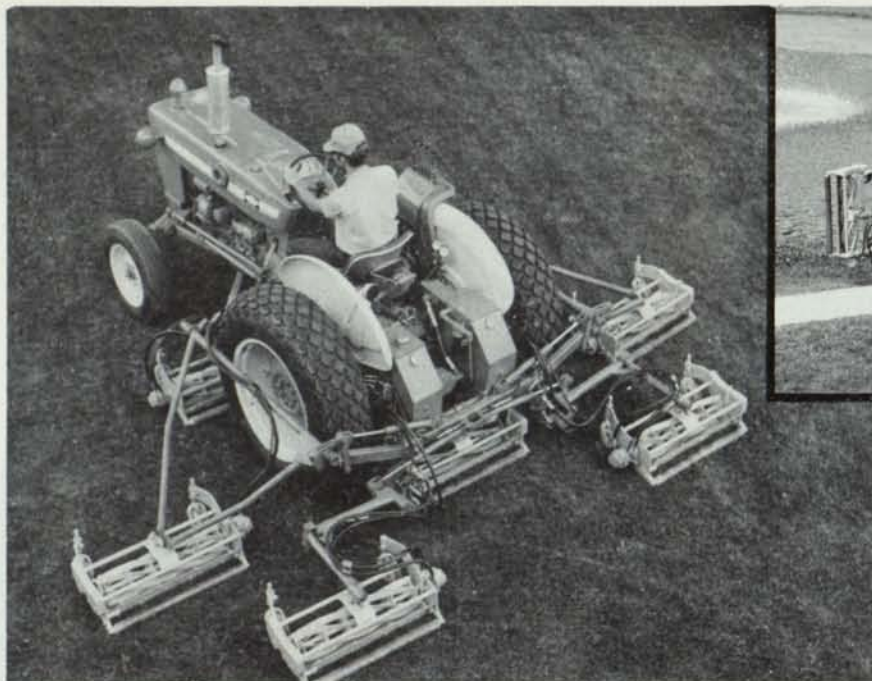
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G.C.S.A.A. Director, Ted Woehrle

We were happy to have with us Ted Woehrle, director in the GCSAA, who updated us on the National Association. Ted is also Superintendent at Oakland Hills Country Club in Michigan. He updated us on the G.C.S.A.A.

Sorry about the word McMorris being omitted from the death notice of Rex McMorris.

Draining Your Water System

Compliments of Sisco Sprinkler Irrigation Co.

Have you taken the necessary steps to prevent freezing and costly repair of your sprinkler irrigation system?

We hope this checklist will save you repairs and increase the life of your irrigation system.

BEFORE YOU START

Check these important points before you start draining your system.

1. Shut down early—before freezing temperatures become a threat.
2. Plan in advance—a systematic step-by-step procedure will assure the best drainage and make sure all parts of the system are covered.
3. Have all the tools available to do the job (i.e.: compressor, wrenches, hose and hose adapters, water main keys, etc.)
4. Have replacement drain valves and fittings to cover any valves that have caused trouble before.
5. Check your irrigation system plan or layout, for location of the manual drains in the system. Can they be located? Are the drain sleeves centered over the valves so they can be operated from above ground at grade level?
6. Check the operation of the master shut-off valve from the present city main. Will it seal off the water and not let it bleed into the sprinkling system during the winter months.
7. Do you have any gravel drains which you know should be re-built? Drains built in heavy soils will fill in with time and will not absorb the water quickly.

DRAINAGE BY GRAVITY

If the system was installed to grade and manual drain valves have provided good drainage in the years past, continue the same procedure. The following steps will be helpful in setting up a new procedure or serve as a checklist to your present procedure.

1. Turn off the pumping plant (or water service) and depressurize the system by bleeding off the main and pressure tank.
2. Insert couplers at the higher elevations and allow the air to bleed back into the system during the drainage procedure. Bleed out as much water as possible through outlets above the ground. Now, open the manual drain valves at the low points.
3. Allow sufficient time for the water to drain out of the pipe and for the water to be absorbed by the gravel sump. The time required is dependent on the amount of water, condition of the gravel sump, size of the drain, and depth of the water table. Allow 2-3 days for drainage on light sandy soils and 5-7 days on heavier soils. Be sure the water has drained from the line.
4. Open the in-line manual control valves at each tee and green to allow the water to flow to the low area.
5. **After complete drainage of the line**, close off the drain valves to prevent the re-entry of water due to the rising water table, flooding conditions or melting snow.
6. Remove the couplers from the quick coupling valves at the higher elevations.
7. Any sprinkler heads which are in low flood areas should be sealed off and if necessary, removed from the riser and capped shut.
8. In low areas where the water table is too near the surface and drainage is not possible, a "pump-out" type sump will be required.

USING AIR TO BLOW OUT THE SYSTEM

1. The air compressor must be of adequate size to keep the water moving down to the end of each lateral section. For golf courses a 250 CFM (cubic foot/min.) air compressor would be needed.
2. Inject the air at the pump house location, through the main trunk lines to each branch lateral line.
3. Plan for the removal of water out of each branch lateral line and on automatic systems sequence and operate each valve station until air displaces the water.
4. Repeating the procedure is important. Water will drain and collect again in the low areas of piping (4 or 5 times may be necessary).
5. After you think you have removed all the water from the pipelines then crack open the drains and blow out until only air escapes.
6. When the water has been removed the drain valve should be closed to prevent the re-entry of water due to flooding, rising water table or melting snow.

ELECTRIC CONTROLLERS

Special attention for automatic controllers:

1. Leave the electric current on each of the field controllers during the winter season. Keeping the timing motors energized will add heat to the cabinet and help to lower the relative humidity and reduce moisture and condensation.
2. Seal off any holes in the panel enclosure so that rodents will not nest in these locations and cause any shorting out.

3. Program at short time intervals to activate each valve station during the months of inactivity. (2 1/2 to 5 minutes timing at each station once a day.)

PUMPS AND PUMPING PLANT

1. Secure electric controls to "off"—lock in "off" position or remove fuses.
2. Remove water from mechanical piping, pumps, check valves and pressure tank.
3. Disconnect suction line, or open drain in suction piping to prevent breakage. (Caution: Drain valve must be below frost level.)
4. Cover any openings in pumps, suction piping, and discharge piping to prevent entrance of rodents, or having foreign objects fall into the lines.
5. Particular attention to remove and drain the regulator pilot control valves on pressure regulating valve.
6. Remove any water from air compressor lines, pressure switches, and pressure gauges.
7. Pay special attention to drain Numatic air chargers. They must be disconnected and stored in non-freeze building.
8. Most of the centrifugal pumps used for irrigation have a stuffing box. Loosen up the stuffing box and distribute the grease. Back off and loosen the gland for winter storage.
9. Spray a rubber preservative on any rubber suction gaskets, diaphragms, and foot valves to keep them from drying out and cracking over the winter months.
10. Special guidelines should be followed to protect gas driven pumps. Follow the manufacturers recommendations to protect the cooling system, cylinders, battery, and pump castings. Vacuum pumps and vacuum primers should be removed and stored in a cool dry place.

To keep your drains operating and serviceable, keep in mind the following:

1. Use at least a 3/4" size drain valve, one that will operate easily, and has the features of a strong stem and cross handle. A Buckner #80K—3/4" size has these features.
2. When replacing any drain valve check that you are providing an adequate gravel sump that will absorb the water.

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A CHANGE IN MIDWEST VOTING DELEGATES

Roger LaRochelle was appointed by MAGCS President Denis Straus to take the position as alternate voting delegate for 1974. Dudley Smith will not be able to attend due to a trip to the hospital before conference time. Bruce Sering will be the voting delegate with Roger as alternate.

Introducing:

MR. MICHAEL R. BAVIER

**Nominee for Director
Golf Course Superintendents Association of America**

Every member of GCSAA is well aware of the tremendous technical advances in our profession in recent years. We are equally aware of changing times, and of the trends relating to our own welfare as professional superintendents. In this same vein, we must make sure that GCSAA continues to keep in tune with the times so that we can keep on serving our individual member's needs.

Once again we are approaching that most important time of the year—when we select new officers and directors to guide us into the future. Our GCSAA Nominating Committee has given us a great slate to choose from at Anaheim.

Accordingly, it is essential that we alert you to the fact that we honestly feel we have a most outstanding nominee in Mike Bavier. He has the total qualifications so necessary for the fulfillment of what we all hope to see in the future for GCSAA. His dedication, executive ability, enthusiasm, desire, and record of achievement are all very impressive; we think you, too, will be proud of these factors.

In the best interest of GCSAA, we sincerely urge you to give your most thoughtful consideration to Mike Bavier as a director of the Executive Committee.

While looking forward to renewing old friendships at Anaheim, we remain,

Sincerely yours,
Denis Straus, President,
Midwest GCSA

**"Dedicated to Serve All"
All GCSAA members.**

PERSONAL DATA

Michael R. Bavier has been golf course superintendent at Inverness Country Club, Palatine, Ill., since 1969, prior to which he was superintendent for four years at Calumet Country Club, Homewood, Ill. He also served as assistant superintendent for the late Emil Picha at Oak Ridge Country Club, Hopkins, Minn., and under Warren Bidwell at Olympia Fields (Ill.) Country Club.

He is a graduate of the two-year Penn State University turf management course and has also taken courses at Harper College. He helped organize a high school turf program for which he has taught many classes and is helping to organize a turf program at Harper College.

Mike has been a member of GCSAA for 8 years and of Midwest GCSA for 11 years, serving the latter group as director and, at present, secretary-treasurer. Married, he has two children.

Editorial

THE PAST AND INTO THE FUTURE

By Mike R. Bavier

The past fall was most enjoyable after a long grinding summer. The cool rains of September helped to heal the scars on the turf from the hot season and put a smile on many a superintendent's face. As a group on the whole, we were fortunate in that we did receive that much needed rain unlike our counter parts out East who suffered into late October before receiving their moisture.

We have now come to that time of the year when we can relax and plan for the coming season. After spending many hours on the course—Saturdays, Sundays, and Holidays included—we should slow our pace and take time to enjoy our families and other activities. That, of course, does not mean we should let ourselves become stagnant on the job. During this time of the year, there are so many good turf conferences scheduled that we should try to attend two or three and even take in a different one for a change. We may be surprised to find that we have missed a good seminar, or we might realize our local clinic is quite outstanding and is due so to a lot of planning and hard work by the committee and superintendent participation. At these meetings, we may grasp some knowledge that will lessen our burden for the coming season. Superintendents also will have a chance to renew old acquaintances and discuss past problems, such as this year's trouble with the C-15 strain of bent grass on putting greens.

We are fortunate to have a time during our work year in which to revitalize our thinking and be able to make plans for the future. Planning for the future is most important. We must sit down and make short and long range plans and what better time is there than when the snow is falling softly on the course. While we are making these plans for our courses, we should take a few minutes to review our personal needs, too. Is it time to update our insurance needs (lower or raise life and/or home insurance), have we had a will made up or kept one up to date, and do we have a retirement plan?

Planning done for the future will make all projects easier to accomplish. A well planned project will help us personally, on the job, or to sell a committee much faster than a scattering of thoughts. We can benefit many fold by making these plans.

The grass may have stopped growing for the year, but let's not let ourselves stop growing in our endeavor to gain more knowledge of our turfgrass field. Let's continue to benefit from the past and then plan for the future and for the betterment of ourselves and the people we work for.



Mike discussing forthcoming budget with his green chairman.



Mike and his two turf students attending Midwest Turf Clinic.



The Mike Bavier family.



Mike reading minutes at monthly chapter meeting.



Mike with foreman at entrance of club.



The Problem Solvers...



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Participants who will be on hand to discuss your particular problems and their solutions.

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Mr. Art J. Gerdes, The F. E. Myers & Bro. Co.

Avery Harris, Vaughan's Seed Company

Dave M. McLeod, - Dow Chemical U.S.A.

A. G. Rogers, E. I. DuPont De Nemours & Company

Dr. Al Turgeon, University of Illinois

Bob Waseskuk, Standard Manufacturing Company

D.H. Kocher, U.S. Gypsum Co.

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Midwest Golf Course Superintendents Association Educational Meeting. Left to right: Fred Opperman, Roger LaRochelle, Mike Bavier, Anthony Meyer, Ray H. Gerber.

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